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HEAD START KIT FEATURED AT LOGAN



Gifts by Civic Groups Encouraged

"Members of the Woman's Club of Logan looked through the newly attained Head Start Kit containing fifteen attractive pictorial tales including just-for-fun and child development books. The aim of the Kit, furnished by the West Virginia Library Commission, is to encourage the purchase of worth-while books in the pre-school training of the poverty programs. Reading left to right in the picture are: Mrs. R. H. Colvin, past president; Mrs. T. L. Henritze, president; Mrs. W. A. Brown, librarian; and Mary Gean Vance, youth work program library trainee." Logan Banner, July, 1965.

The emphasis of the kit is to demonstrate the wealth of trade books on tap for the pre-schooler and their versatility as teaching devices. Two thousand books were purchased by the Library Commission, but twenty thousand books would be needed to supply the Head Start program if it continued at its present pace.

One hundred and twenty-seven kits were shipped by July 15 from the Field Office at the Library Commission. Several dozen more kits will be assembled as additional books arrive. Contact Mrs. Betty Adkins at the Library Commission if your library needs an additional set. Several libraries have not signed for the kits which have been shipped to them. Has your library filed a receipted list with the Field Office for each kit received?

The future of the Head Start program is indefinite beyond August. A special appropriation made it possible. (\$2,800,000 was appropriated by the Federal government, and this was matched by State and local funds.)

The over 18,000 youngsters entering the first grade will have enlarged their horizons as a result of this summer's experiences.

In many communities, work for the pre-schooler will be continued through child development centers established by community action programs. The Council of the Southern Mountains, under the leadership of Ed Thomas in Welch, has more than thirty nursery schools scattered throughout McDowell County. Many are located in abandoned school houses and churches. Hardy and Mineral Counties also have an extensive program which is not under school auspices. The remainder of the Head Start programs in the state have been supervised and organized by school systems.

West Virginia libraries should invite the project leader of the local Head Start program to include the public library on the visitation schedule. The younger they start as borrowers in the public library, the easier it is to make the library habit a lifetime habit.

YOUTH CORPS ASSIGNED TO TWELVE LIBRARIES No Charge for Use of These Students!

One of the bonuses of the "Poverty Program" is a chance to tackle some of those important projects that libraries neglect due to lack of personnel. The following libraries have reported that they are using students--Kanawha County, St. Albans, Dunbar, Nitro, South Charleston, Logan, Welch, Fairmont, Point Pleasant, Parkersburg, Huntington, and the Headquarters of the Library Commission. More than forty Youth Corps students have summer jobs in our public libraries.

In Charleston's main library a large picture file project is underway using the students for mounting art work. Many assist with shelving and dusting. Those with clerical talents are working at loan desks relieving

the librarian for other tasks. A few who have had training under a school librarian are helping to prepare catalog cards and label books in a library which has not previously been subject classified.

The availability of Neighborhood Youth Corps students is dependent on the organization in each county. In most cases, the school will be sponsoring the program; therefore, libraries interested in easing their personnel problem through Federal funds should file a request for assistance in the Board of Education Office.

Ken Brown reports that Huntington Public Library is using college students from the Marshall University campus. This personnel is financed through the Work-Study phase of the Economic Opportunity Act. A local rule on each campus will determine whether or not college students may be assigned to work off campus.

If a library is located near enough to a college, it would be worth-while to contact the Director of Student Placements to obtain help. The advantage of the college student with his maturity and greater versatility make him more flexible to use in the library. Hours of work will be limited to fifteen (hours) per week.

"ADVANCEMENT BOOKS" FOR ADULTS BEGINNING TO READ

Library Commission Prepares 2000 Booklists

Success in teaching adults who have never mastered the three "R's" is dependent to a great extent on instructional materials which inspire reading. Too often in the past, teachers have had to depend on children's books, and the germ of excitement which should accompany learning to read is lost in the process. This list of 100 titles for "unpracticed" readers is divided into three reading levels: a group for the beginning reader through roughly fourth grade, for the intermediate reader through seventh grade level, and simplified adult books for the slow reader...with emphasis on large clear print. This enclosed list was prepared by literacy experts in cooperation with librarians in the Adult Services Division of the American Library Association.

Emphasis on literacy training will increase as leaders come to grips with solving the individual's job problems in the Poverty Program. The machinery in West Virginia is just being organized. The Appalachian Youth program in Kanawha County is being conducted by Mrs. Betty Harlan in Dunbar. Her mailing address is Box #3228 in Charleston. Mr. Fred Eberle, Director of the Division of Vocational Education in the state Department of Education reports that a pilot program in literacy will be started in Summers County soon. Fifteen counties are considering these programs. The Welfare Department, through its case workers, will be referring those who need the training.

Examination kits of the materials in the Advancement Booklist will be exhibited in regional libraries and on mobile units. Write the Field Office if your community would like an exhibit for a special meeting.

APPALACHIA WAKES UP.....THEME OF THE POTOMAC VALLEY WORKSHOP

Hats off to Mary Handlan for the successful library meeting on June 18 in Moorefield. Seven of the eight counties in the area were in attendance at the meeting. "Where We've Been" was the topic for reflection at the morning session with the following participants: Mrs. Grover Evick from Franklin, Mrs. Herbert Shewbridge, Martinsburg, librarian, Mrs. Molly Shelton of the bookmobile staff, and Rev. Lamar Neville of Petersburg, secretary of the Potomac Valley Regional Board.

Luncheon speaker for the meeting was Wallace C. Lynch, Director of the Hardy and Mineral County Community Action Program. He reported that there were twelve child development centers established under the program.

The most welcome news announced at the gathering was the county court appropriation from Hardy County which will bring bookmobile service to that area for the first time. Hardy County has used an old stationwagon to service deposit collections. Mrs. C. B. Allen should glow with pride since this represents the culmination of many years of effort by the board.

SIX \$2500 AWARDS WILL BE MADE BY THE BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

Deadline for Applications Set for September 24

A new policy marks the plans for the number and the size of the cash awards which have just been announced under the arrangements for the Dorothy Canfield Fisher memorial. In the past, the top award has been \$5000 with numerous smaller grants. However, considering the cost of books today, the \$1000 bonuses did not add many titles to the shelves.

The criteria for submission of an application remain exactly the same with the following emphasis: the headquarters library must serve no more than 25,000 population though the total population served by the system is not limited; the housing must include expansion area, half of the total support must be from public funds, open for service five days a week, and equal service to all regardless of race.

Applications may be secured through regional libraries or through the field office of the Library Commission, 2004 Quarrier St., Charleston.

West Virginia has won three awards....let's make it four!

National Library Week leadership has been announced by president-elect of WVLA, William Myers of Weirton. Miss June Martin of Kanawha County's Reference Department and Eloise Newlon of Morris Harvey College Library have agreed to serve as co-chairmen. Date: April 17-23, 1966.

Welcome to Morgantown's New Librarian: Mrs. Florence Taylor became Director of the Morgantown Public Library on July first. A Columbia University graduate, she has extensive school library experience.